

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS:TECH, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR HOUSING AGREEMENT: MEETING OF WORKING
GROUP 10.03, TRAVEL OF MRS. SIMONS, MRS. WOHL, AND MR.
MELKONIAN

1. REQUEST EMBASSY INFORM TEREENTIEV OF GOSSTROY THAT THE
FOLLOWING LETTER WAS TRANSMITTED, WITH COPY TO INTOURIST
IN NEW YORK, ON JUNE 12, 1978:

MS. GLORIA DESEIFE, SANDERS WORLD TRAVEL, 1625 I STREET,
N.W., SUITE 712, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006, DEAR MS.
DESEIFE:

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IS THE
EXECUTIVE AGENT FOR THE UNITED STATES IN ADMINISTRATION
OF THE U.S.-U.S.S.R. AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE
FIELD OF HOUSING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION. THE U.S.S.R.
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STATE COMMITTEE FOR CONSTRUCTION AFFAIRS (GOSSTROY)
ADMINISTERS THE AGREEMENT FOR THE SOVIET UNION. ONE
OF THE SIX JOINT WORKING GROUPS UNDER THE AGREEMENT
WILL MEET IN THE SOVIET UNION FROM JULY 30 THROUGH AUGUST
13, 1978. A COPY OF OUR LETTER TO THE U.S.S.R. CO-CHAIRMAN
OF THE WORKING GROUP, IDENTIFYING THE MEMBERS OF THE
U.S. DELEGATION, IS ATTACHED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

MR. SIMONS AND MR. WOHL WILL BE ACCOMPANIED ON THE TRIP BY THEIR WIVES, AND MS. MELKONIAN WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HER FATHER. ALL INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL RESERVATIONS WILL BE MADE BY THE HUD OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, BUT WE WOULD WANT YOU TO ISSUE TICKETS FOR THE UNOFFICIAL TRAVELERS. ALL TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION FOR THE OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION WILL BE ARRANGED BY GOSSTROY. GOSSTROY HAS ASKED, HOWEVER, THAT ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION FOR THE THREE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE PARTY BE ARRANGED THROUGH INTOURIST, IN COORDINATION WITH GOSSTROY, AND INTOURIST HAS REFERRED US TO YOU. ALL VISAS WILL BE HANDLED BY HUD.

INTOURLIST SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT COORDINATION WITH GOSSTROY SHOULD BE THROUGH MR. OLEG M. TEREENTIEV, U.S.S.R. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE U.S.-U.S.S.R. JOINT COMMITTEE ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HOUSING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION, U.S.S.R. STATE COMMITTEE FOR CONSTRUCTION AFFAIRS, 12 MARX AVENUE, MOSCOW. MR. TEREENTIEV'S TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 292-61-07. HE HAS BEEN PROVIDED WITH A COPY OF THIS LETTER.

HOTELS AND FLIGHTS WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION ARE BEING ARRANGED BY GOSSTROY, AND WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ADVISED
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OF EITHER WHICH HOTELS WILL BE USED OR ON WHICH FLIGHTS THE PARTY WILL TRAVEL. WE DO NOT EXPECT TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION FROM GOSSTROY UNTIL AFTER WE ARRIVE IN THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS ESSENTIAL, HOWEVER, THAT MRS. SIMONS AND MRS. WOHL SHARE ROOMS WITH THEIR HUSBANDS AND THAT MR. MELKONIAN'S SINGLE ROOM BE IN THE SAME HOTEL AS THAT USED BY THE OFFICIAL PARTY. IT IS ALSO ESSENTIAL THAT ALL TRAVEL WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION BE ON THE SAME FLIGHTS OR TRAINS AS THOSE USED BY THE OFFICIAL PARTY. IF TRAINS ARE TO BE USED AND COMPARTMENTS ARE ASSIGNED, MRS. SIMONS AND MRS. WOHL MUST BE ASSIGNED TO SHARE COMPARTMENTS WITH THEIR HUSBANDS. MR. TEREENTIEV HAS ASSURED US THAT SUCH ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE IF INTOURLIST COORDINATES WITH GOSSTROY.

THE OFFICIAL TRAVEL IS ON A "SENDING SIDE PAYS" BASIS. UNDER THIS ARRANGEMENT, MEALS ARE PURCHASED AND PAID FOR INDIVIDUALLY AND HOTELS ARE PAID FOR AT THE TIME OF DEPARTURE. OPEN AIRLINE TICKETS COVERING THE INTERNAL ITINERARY ARE PURCHASED IN THE UNITED STATES. WE WOULD EXPECT THE SAME FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS TO GOVERN THE TRAVEL OF THE THREE UNOFFICIAL TRAVELERS IN THE GROUP.

IN OTHER WORDS, THE ONLY EXPENSES WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION PREPAID IN THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE THOSE FOR AIR TRAVEL. MEALS AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS WOULD BE PAID FOR IN THE SOVIET UNION.

THE DETAILS KNOWN TO US AT THIS TIME ARE AS FOLLOWS:

THE UNOFFICIAL TRAVELERS WILL BE MRS. ANNA LOU SIMONS, MRS. PHYLLIS WOHL, AND MR. WILLIAM C. MELKONIAN.

THE PARTY WILL ARRIVE IN MOSCOW (SHEREMETEVO) AT 6:15 PM ON SUNDAY, JULY 30 ON LUFTHANSA FLIGHT 342 FROM FRANKFURT. TRAVEL IN THE SOVIET UNION WILL FOLLOW THE ITINERARY
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MOSCOW-TBILISI-YEREVAN-LENINGRAD. ALL DEPARTURES FROM THE SOVIET UNION WILL BE FROM LENINGRAD ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 13. MR. AND MRS. SIMONS WILL LEAVE FOR TOKYO (VIA MOSCOW) ON AEROFLOT FLIGHT 2426 AT 3:30 PM. MR. AND MRS. WOHL AND MS. MELKONIAN AND HER FATHER WILL LEAVE FOR HELSINKI ON FINNAIR FLIGHT 711 AT 11:35 AM.

IF WE SHOULD LEARN MORE DETAILS ABOUT OUR ITINERARY WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION, I WILL LET YOU KNOW. I WILL ALSO BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU AS SOON AS THE COMPLETE INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT ITINERARY HAS BEEN ARRANGED; SO THAT YOU CAN ISSUE THE APPROPRIATE TICKETS. I HAVE ENCLOSED MR. SIMONS' CHECK FOR \$40, REPRESENTING THE DEPOSIT WHICH YOU REQUESTED. IF YOU SHOULD HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME ON 755-3349 OR, IF THERE IS NO ANSWER, 755-7212. SINCERELY, PHILIP E. FOREST, SPECIAL ASSISTANT."

2. NEITHER EMBASSY NOR GOSSTROY WILL BE ASKED TO MAKE ANY SPECIAL PROGRAM ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANY OF THE UNOFFICIAL TRAVELERS. ALL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE THROUGH INTOURIST. CHRISTOPHER

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